the Shoulder-blades, which reſembled thoſe of Sheep. [See an Article in the *Scots Magazine* for *October* 1748. printed at *Edinburgh* in 8*vo.*] In a Letter to me, he adds, that probably this was a [Pelagian or] Ocean Fiſh, wandring by chance into the Frith of *Forth*; and, by the Tide ebbing, being left upon a conſiderable Shoal, or flat Sand, near *Leith*, was diſcover'd from Land in a State of Diſtreſs; whereupon ſome Fiſhermen plunged into the Sea, and with a Net ſurrounded it, and brought it to Shore.

XXI. *A Letter from* John Burton *M. D. to* C. Mortimer *M. D. & Secr. R. S. concerning the* Extirpation *of an* Excreſcence *from the* Womb.

SIR,

Read July 5. 1750. I HAVE at laſt got a Drawing of an Excreſcence * growing from the Inſide of the *Os Tincæ* on the right Side; which I herewith ſend you, (ſee TAB. I. *Fig.* 6.) along with as full and perfect an Account of the Caſe as I can.

The Wife of one *Chapman*, a Whiteſmith, at *Selby*, ten Miles off, upwards of ſeven Years ago lay in of her laſt Child, and had a tolerable eaſy Labour: Soon after which, ſhe had what ſhe called the *Fluor albus*, that continued ever ſince, and increaſed upon her; inſomuch that ſhe ſays, ſhe has ſometimes

* It is exactly the Dimenſions of the Original, which weighed 5 Ounces and a half. That Part below the pricked Line appeared out of the *Vagina*; that above reach'd from the *Labia* to the *Os Uteri*.

ſometimes had ſuch a Diſcharge, as to wet the Place ſhe ſat upon thro' all her Petticoats, *&c.*

For ſome Months before we were concerned for her, ſhe began to complain of a Pain and Weight in the *Uterus*; which increaſed as the Subſtance grew in Bulk; and at laſt the Excreſcence was ſo large as to appear outwards, and then it grew very faſt.

The Patient conſulted her Midwife, who thought the Womb had come out; but was ſo prudent as not to do any thing; and deſired they would call in better Advice. Accordingly they ſent for Mr. *Fell*, an eminent Man-midwife and Surgeon in this City; who, not having met with a Caſe like that, deſir'd me alſo to go and ſee her; which was in *December* laſt (1749). The Subſtance not only fill'd, but extended, the Entrance into the *Vagina*. I introduced a Finger into the Paſſage, and ſoon found the Excreſcence to be leſs in Bulk there than what appear'd without the Body; and to be in Shape as you ſee in the Drawing. I follow'd the Subſtance till I reach'd the *Os Uteri*, which I found chiefly fill'd up, with the Neck or ſmalleſt Part of this Subſtance, leaving only a ſmall Part of the *Os Tincæ* to be perceived on the left Side, obliquely towards the Back. I tried to penetrate the *Os Tincæ* with the End of my Finger, but could not; however, I ſo far open'd it, as to let out a ſort of bloody *Ichor*, which was a little offenſive in Smell.

I asked her, if, when her Diſcharges were ſo large as to wet her Seat, they differ'd in Smell from thoſe which came in leſs Quantities; and if they ſmelled ſomething like what then came from her when I ſearched her, which ſhe anſwer'd in the Affirmative: From whence I concluded ſhe had an Ulcer

cer juſt within the *Os Uteri*, from the Edge of which this *Fungus* or Excreſcence grew. The Patient complain'd of Pain in the *Uterus* and Back, was very faint, and frequently was provoked to vomit, with a feeble Pulſe, and ſometimes Sweat.

Upon Conſultation, we thought proper to tie a Ligature as high up within the *Vagina* as the Surgeon could reach: Which being done, and ſome internal Medicines being order'd, we return'd home; and in two or three Days we went again, but found no great Alteration as to the uterine Complaint; except that the Part below the Ligature was ſomewhat more livid, and the fetid Smell was much greater, and very like that of a confirmed running Cancer: And as the Matter was ſomewhat confin'd in the Paſſage, I order'd them to waſh the *Vagina* by an Injection made of the common emollient Decoction, with *Mel Roſarum* and a little *Tinct. Myrrhæ*. This was frequently done; by which the Smell was leſs offenſive; and two Days after the Excreſcence dropp'd off at the Ligature.

The Patient has ſince, in part, recover'd her Strength; tho' ſhe is not in a good State of Health, and her *Fluor albus*, as ſhe calls it, is ſtill troubleſome to her.

This was the laſt Account I have had of her. The Excreſcence was very ſolid, of a dark liver Colour, and, whilſt adhering to the *Uterus*, was quite inſenſible. When cut in two, it reſembled the ſolid Subſtance that is taken out of Cancers. I am,

SIR,

Your very humble Servant,

York, March 28, 1750.

John Burton.

July 5, 1750. the SOCIETY adjourned to *Oct.* 25

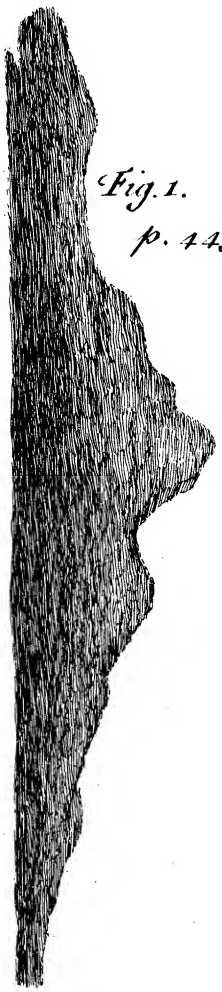

Fig. 1.
p. 443.

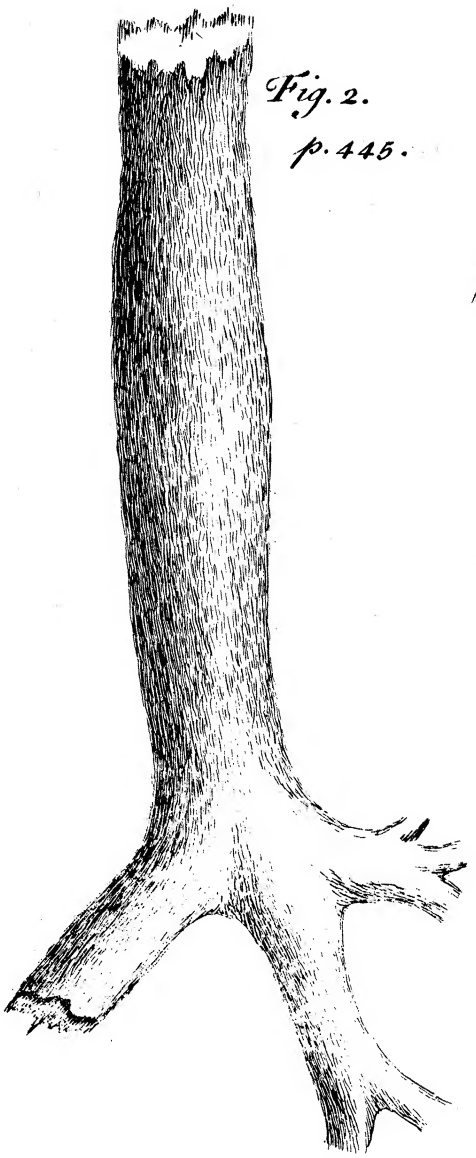

Fig. 2.
p. 445.

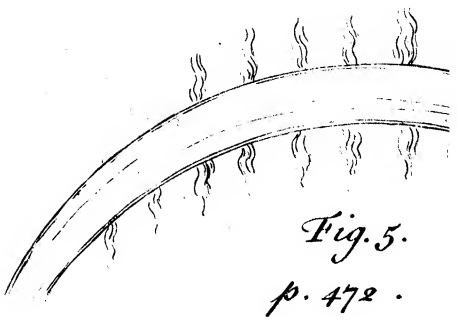

Fig. 5.
p. 472.

Fig. 3.
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Fig. 4.
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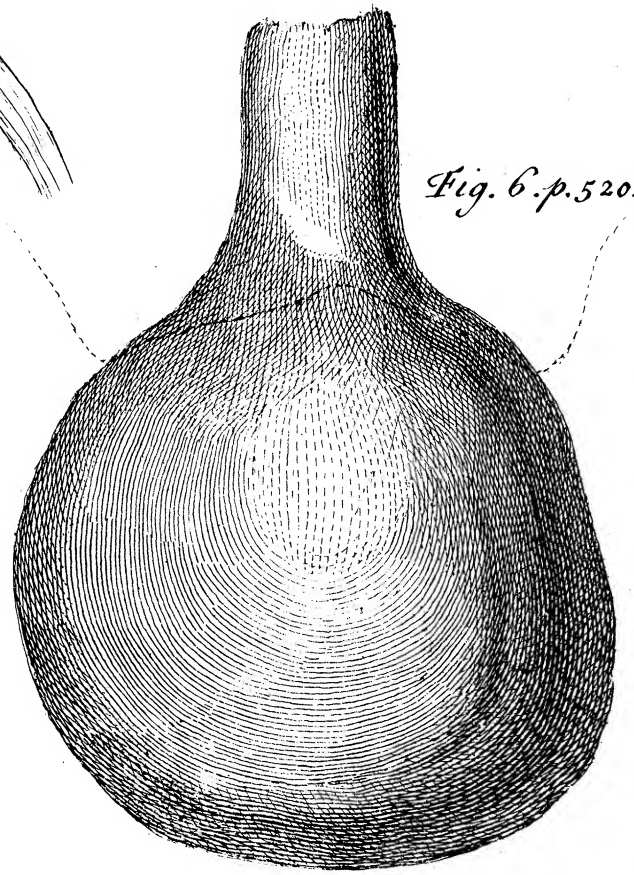

Fig. 6. p. 520.

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Fig 1
p 428

Fig 2
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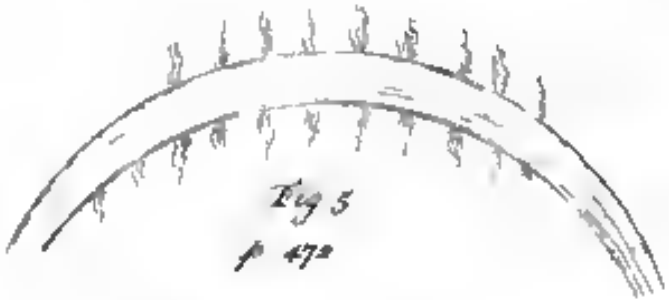

Fig 5
p 472

Fig 3
p 446

IMPERIO REGIO

Fig 4
p. 452

Fig 6 p 520